

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMITTEE & ELDERLY MOBILITY
STAKEHOLDERS GROUP**

March 21, 2006
MAG Cholla Room, 2nd Floor
302 North First Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Robert Maki, Surprise	*Marc Scott, City of Tempe
Reed Henry, ADOT	Kelly LaRosa, City of Avondale
*Martin Johnson, Chandler	*Mark Fooks, Town of Youngtown
* Bruce Ward, Gilbert	*Mary Kihl, ASU
Sandy Adams, Glendale	Jennifer Brown, FHWA
*Doug Dobson, Apache Junction	*Stuart Boggs for Teri Collins, RPTA
Peggy Rubach for Chris Plumb, Maricopa County	Lt. Mike Lockhart, DPS
Larry Talley, Mesa	David Cowley, AAA Arizona
*William Mead, Paradise Valley	Linda Mendyka, GOHS
Scott Nodes, City of Goodyear	Tom Burch, AARP
Kerry Wilcoxon, City of Phoenix	Jamal Rahimi, City of Peoria
George Williams for Paul Porell, City of Scottsdale	

OTHERS PRESENT

Chuck Ullman, Sun City West	Cindy Brown, Tempe
Paul Casertano, PAG	Claudia Walters, Mesa
Betsy Buxer, Easter Seals AZ	Loretta Crimi, ADOT
Donna Brower, Scottsdale	Barbara Hill, Maricopa County HSD
Kelly Doell, Phoenix	Eddie Caine, Maricopa County
Ricardo Sarano, Center DOAR	Christina Esles, AAA
Chris Andrews, DES	Amy St. Peter, MAG
Ken Murayamn, Gilbert	Maureen DeCindis, MAG
Sarath Joshua, MAG	Kiran Guntupalli, MAG
Leo Luo, MAG	

* Not present or represented by proxy

1. Call to Order
Vice Mayor of Mesa Claudia Walters called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.
2. Introductions
Members of Transportation Safety Committee and Elderly Mobility Stakeholders Group introduced themselves.
3. Meeting Logistics

Sarath Joshua went over the meeting logistics.

4. Discussion of Elderly Mobility & Safety Project Options

Maureen DeCindis distributed a document on a call for projects and asked for suggestions and input from the group. A number of changes and improvements were suggested. Ms. DeCindis agreed to prepare a final draft of the document and circulate it to the individuals members of the two groups.

5. End of Joint Meeting

The joint meeting concluded at 11:10 A.M. and the Transportation Safety Committee meeting continued.

6. Approval of January 17, 2005 Meeting Minutes

Tom Burch moved and Peggy Rubach seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2006 meeting minutes.

7. Call to Audience

Acting Chairman Scott Nodes made a call to the audience providing an opportunity to members of the public to address the Transportation Safety Committee.

8. Program Managers Report

The following is a summary of the Program Manager's report provided by Sarath Joshua:

- i. Introduction of new MAG staff member – Leo Luo, ITS and Safety Engineer
- ii. Report on activities at Governor's Traffic Safety Advisory Council (GTSAC) – He described the process that is occurring at the GTSAC in developing the state's Strategic Transportation Safety Plan. In each emphasis area Action Plans are being prepared. Sarath is leading the development of an Action Plan focused on safety related to access and mobility at schools.

9. SAFETEA-LU and Federal Funds for Road Safety Improvements in the MAG region

Jennifer Brown stated that Arizona did not have a Safety Plan that meets the requirement of SAFETEA-LU. The current HSIP includes the Safe Route to School project. She explained that requests for interstate safety improvement projects are also undergoing. Kerry Wilcoxon asked if the HSIP funding could be transferred to safety education or research. Jennifer explained that they are still waiting for guidelines from Federal Highway Administration headquarters in Washington, D.C. Ms. Brown continued that it is required that all states should come up with a Strategic Highway Safety Plan by October 1, 2006. Even if a plan is not ready by October of 2006, the funding of Arizona would not be affected in the FY 2007. ADOT could still make use of the HSIP funding on state roads and any qualifying HES applications. However, if the state's Safety Plan still cannot meet the SAFETEA-LU requirements by October 2007, the state will be penalized by not granting the state the planned increase in safety funding, instead it would remain at the previous FY's funding level. Sarath Joshua stated that the non-infrastructure safety program is as important as the infrastructure programs, especially when the region faces serious highway safety problems. Kerry Wilcoxon asked the procedure for HSIP projects to be funded. Jennifer Brown answered that the HSIP projects of the cities will be reimbursed up to 95%. Peggy Rubach

asked when the draft safety plan would be released for the members to review. She also asked if there is any procedure or guidelines to allocate the funding or draft the safety plan. Jennifer stated that the Safety Plan should be ready on time. However, no specific guidelines are available at either federal or state level for now. Jennifer also mentioned that in the previous practice by Arizona DOT, 75% of the safety funding was allocated to the state owned highway system. The balance 25% of safety funds were allocated to local projects on a first-come-first-served basis. Sarath Joshua suggested that the committee could develop a list of regional road safety projects that could initiate the programs with deserving projects in the region. All the committee members expressed their interests and support. Leo Luo asked if there are safety analysis or research projects that can help to initiate the potential safety programs. Sarath Joshua mentioned that MAG is carrying out some safety analysis that can be further advanced. Sarath Joshua suggested a survey being sent out to the member agencies to serve as a starting point of developing a regional safety plan and initiating the safety projects. All members representing jurisdictions agreed to share their experience and safety programs to support the process. The experience and products of developing the regional safety plan might be recommended to state level. The committee agreed to this approach. David Cowley from AAA asked where the funding sources could be found. Sarath Joshua suggested to put the information on MAG safety committee website.

10. Reports by Committee Members on Transportation Safety Activities

Tom Burch introduced the AARP Driver Safety Program for age 55 and above. He point out that this course is also useful for drivers of all ages. Kerry Wilcoxon mentioned that City of Phoenix is working on the latest crash summary report. George Williams mentioned that City of Scottsdale is developing a road safety master plan and is currently carrying out analyses to identify locations with safety issues. Linda Mendyka mentioned that the 2007 GOHS Grant Application is available. It is due on April 3rd, 2006. Interested agencies can download the application on <http://www.azgohs.state.az.us/>. David Cowley from AAA mentioned their zero error for drivers program. The program intends to educate the young drivers to avoid driving errors. Larry Talley mentioned that a PD/Transportation Safety Committee was formed in Mesa. He also stated that fatality analysis was performed on Mesa local streets and some intersections were identified to have safety problems. In addition, a fulltime traffic safety educator was hired by the City of Mesa. Jennifer Brown stated that it is expected that the all Action Plans will be completed by May 10th, 2006. Sarath Joshua notified the members that a web-based Seminar on the topic of “Overview of Safe Routes to School Program” would be held on Thursday, March 23, 2006 from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM in an ADOT conference room – details can be obtained from Mike Sanders of ADOT.

11. Next Meeting Date

Next meeting is scheduled for May 16th, 2006 at 10.00AM in Cholla Room at MAG.

12. Adjournment

Acting Chairman Scott Nodes adjourned the meeting at 11:50 AM